

SO YOU WANT TO BE A DOCTOR?

Applying to Medical School

The Dornsife Office of Pre-Health Advisement is here to help you with applying to health professional schools, beginning with freshman orientation all the way through to the postgraduate application process. Need some tips on asking for letters of recommendation? Want to speak with admission representatives from allied-health, allopathic, and osteopathic medical schools? Hoping to get some feedback on your personal statement? Whether you're building a class schedule, seeking academic assistance, or preparing for graduate school interviews, our advisors and faculty are here to provide support and guidance from day one.

Experiential Learning

Experiential learning encourages you to apply what you learn in class to real-world problems or situations through research, study abroad, shadowing and internships. As a Dornsife College pre-health student, you have access to numerous clinical, research, and community-based experiential opportunities. Trojan Health Volunteers (THV) allows you to gain a first-hand understanding of various health professions by engaging with local K-12 students and the Los Angeles community. Problems Without Passports provides a study abroad experience with a professor such as Health, Disease, Language and Culture in Guatemala, that studies multiple facets of health, illness, and disease that affect the region.

Craft Your Own Path

Medicine is a dynamic and evolving profession. If you plan to pursue a health professional program, you are encouraged to think beyond the natural sciences to gain a wider perspective of the world by complementing your pre-health curriculum with a solid understanding of subjects like literature, history, and the social sciences. Our pre-health advisors provide guidance and support to ensure you're completing the necessary prerequisite courses, exploring various health care careers, and preparing you for the application process to whatever graduate level programs interest you such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, pharmacy, or physical therapy.

HEALTH-RELATED DORNSIFE MAJORS

Biochemistry

Biological Sciences

Chemistry

Computational Neuroscience

Environmental Science and Health

Health and Human Sciences

Human Biology

Neuroscience

Psychology

HEALTH-RELATED DORNSIFE MINORS

Biotechnology

This minor brings essential knowledge in the basic sciences together with the corporate skills needed in a rapidly growing industry. It is especially well suited for business, biological sciences, chemistry, or engineering students seeking a career in business and/or the biomedical/biotechnical sciences.

Chemistry

This minor is available to students pursuing other majors who wish to strengthen their background in chemistry. It is a particularly good supplement to major programs of study in biology, biomedical engineering, and chemical engineering.

Computational Biology and Bioinformatics

This minor provides essential training in using quantitative skills to solve fundamental biological problems, as well as problems related to public health, neuroscience, and environment.

Cultural Competence in Medicine

This minor is for students who plan to enter careers in medicine after graduation and are interested in using cultural knowledge to provide more effective health care. It focuses on cultural differences in the understanding of health, disease, health care, and risk factors unique to specific populations.

Global Health

This minor provides students with a basic understanding of the factors that determine the health of populations around the globe. Curriculum focuses on the cultural, environmental, and clinical aspects of various health topics such as maternal and child health, aging, obesity, infectious disease, and others.

Health Care Studies

This minor is targeted to those undergraduates who wish to pursue a postgraduate career in health care or health care related fields. It brings together a background in fundamental science necessary to understand the biological basis of medicine with course work that explores health care both in classroom and clinical settings.

Health Communication

This minor is for students interested in promoting healthy lifestyle practices through effective communication. Students will be prepared to seek jobs in areas including the managed care industry, hospitals, wellness programs, broadcast and cable companies, and private and governmental agencies, as well as other organizations looking for experts with knowledge in health-related fields.

Health Policy

This minor provides students with a background in the institutions, policy, and management issues in the field of health care, and the skills necessary to pursue a range of health-related management and/or policy opportunities in the for-profit, non-profit, and governmental sectors.

Human Movement Science

This minor provides students with the scientific and engineering perspectives and the technical skills involved in capture and analysis of information needed to assess and improve human performance during the activities of daily living.

International Health, Development & Social Justice

This minor is intended for students who wish to understand the challenges associated with health care as an ethical issue in the international context. It is intended to prepare students for careers and leadership roles in the arenas of international health, medical ethics, overpopulation, economic development, human welfare, and principles of social justice.

Medical Anthropology

This minor examines the body, illness, and healing from a cultural perspective, including comparative studies of folk healing systems, curing rituals, and Western biomedical practices.

Natural Science

This minor provides students with a foundation in the basic sciences of physics, chemistry, and biology and allows them to build on this by selecting a variety of electives to meet individual scientific interests and academic goals.

Neuroscience

This minor acquaints students with a broad range of the problems and opportunities available in the study of the brain and the mind.